



**DRAFT**

Committee and Date  
StrettonDale Local Joint  
Committee

19<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
Leebotwood Village Hall

Item

**4**

Public

## **STRETTONDALE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

### **NOTE OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015 AT PITCHFORD VILLAGE HALL 7.00 PM – 9.15 PM**

**Responsible Officer** Lisa Bedford

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#### **Committee Members Present:**

##### Shropshire Council

Tim Barker, Burnell Electoral Division

Lee Chapman, Church Stretton and Craven Arms Electoral Division

David Evans, Church Stretton and Craven Arms Electoral Division

##### Town/Parish Councils

Paul Harris, Leebotwood and Longnor Parish Council

Tony Madley, Eaton-Under-Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council

Mel McFarland, Rushbury Parish Council

Jeremy Dale, All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston Parish Council

Steve Pennington, Cardington Parish Council

Hilary Claytonsmith, Church Stretton Town Council

Sue MacKay, Condover Parish Council

Gareth Ball, Acton Burnell Group Parish Council

Co-opted members:

Also present: -

Sgt Adrian Woolley, West Mercia Police

Martin Sutton, County Arboriculturalist

Tim Sneddon, Environmental Maintenance Service Manager

Lisa Bedford, Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council

There were approximately 2 members of the public present at the meeting.

#### **1. Appointment of Chairman**

##### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr Tim Barker be appointed chairman for the year**

#### **2. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council), Lee Crowhurst (Condover PC), Nicola McPherson (SAP/ Mayfair), Richard Hubbard (SAP)

**3. Appointment of Vice Chairman**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr Mel McFarland be appointed vice chairman for the year.**

**4. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None declared

**5. Notes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2015**

**AGREED:**

That the notes of the meeting held on 12 February be approved and signed as a correct record.

**TB/LB**

**6. Public Question Time**

No questions were raised.

The topic of public and community transport was suggested for the autumn LJC public meeting.

**7. Community Safety Update**

Sgt Woolley explained that crime trends were still low. Residents can view crime data for their areas by visiting [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk).

There is also a survey underway looking at the issue of crime in rural areas. All were asked to complete the survey as individuals and promote to local residents

<http://www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net/research/internal/national-rural-crimes-survey-2015/?member=Crimestoppers>

It was explained that vacant properties in the area are always a target whether on holiday, in hospital etc, there are some measures that can be taken to decrease the risk of being targeted.

Low cost measures that could be taken were demonstrated and these included:

- Put window alarms on conservatories
- Use PIR alarms facing conservatory doors
- Night vision low cost 5 day recording camera
- Smartwater your belongings and resister on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Equipment can be purchased through the Community enablement

Team or the local SNT.

**ACTION: LB to email crime reduction and op vacant flyers to LJC and clerks.**

**LB**

An overview of Stop Thief was also given. This is an initiative for the agricultural community mainly which has been rolled out in Herefordshire where victims of crime are loan and install equipment such as drive / gate sensors for one month, then they are either removed or the farm / business purchases them. It will be implemented in Shropshire over the coming months.

## **8. Removal and maintenance of rural hedgerows**

### **Maintenance**

Tim Sneddon from Shropshire Council explained that maintenance is the responsibility of the owners of the landowner, which in some cases is the Council. Hedges should be cut once per year in the Autumn between October and March as it can't be done in the nesting season. It can be cut at any time though, if there is a safety concern. Shropshire Council, under the Highways Act, can ask the landowner to cut back a hedge. If they do not comply within 28 days a formal notice is issued with 14 days to comply otherwise the Council will undertake the maintenance and charge the landowner. The meeting was advised that if there are verges of interest with wildflowers, to let the environmental maintenance team know as cutting could be delayed until after the flowering season.

### **Removal:**

Martin Sutton from Shropshire Council gave a presentation (attached to the notes) outlining the legislation in relation to hedgerow removal. The aim is to protect 'important' hedgerows against a set of factors. If it is not deemed important linked to the factors, there is nothing that can be done to protect a hedgerow. Applications for removal have to be considered within 6 weeks and the majority of applications are made in the winter when it is much harder to identify flora and fauna present. If a hedgerow is protected, it is like a TPO, i.e. a charge on the land which would show up on land searches etc. Once a removal is approved, the applicants have up to 2 years to complete the work.

Around 17000 metres have been lost in Shropshire in the last 5 years.

Incentives for landowners to protect hedgerows are available if part of the environmental stewardship scheme.

Concern has been raised by the council in previous years with Natural England regarding the legislation and the impact it is having on the natural hedgerows in Shropshire

**ACTION:**

**Copy of submission to Natural England to be circulated if possible.**

**9. Defibrillators in local communities**

Dawn Bush (07747 766 543) from WMAS attended the meeting to give an overview of the current situation and a demonstration of the defibrillator.

Defibrillators provide care for patients (alongside CPR) when the heart has stopped and they are in cardiac arrest i.e. when the electrical current is not working properly (not a heart attack). If used within 1 minute there is an 80% chance of survival.

The defibrillators are housed within temperature controlled box which needs a small power supply. The units themselves are battery powered.

When a 999 call is received, the control room give the details of the nearest box and the code to gain entry to the box. If the 'Numbers Plus' initiative is in operation, the nearest trained person will be called and asked to take the defibrillator to the patient.

Numbers Plus costs £100 per year and is a system that calls locally trained volunteers based on location to the incident to assist with. Each volunteer has to have a DBS check.

WMAS will train any group of people to use the equipment as long as the room can be provided free of charge. Session takes 3 – 4 hours.

The cost for a defibrillator is currently £1100 plus VAT. There is no funding currently available from WMAS to support their installation.

Current locations include: All Stretton, Cardington, Church Stretton, Church Preen, Longnor, Rushbury, Longville.

**10. Youth Commissioning in the StrettonDale LJC area**

As discussed previously, this year there will be a change in how council supported youth activities are delivered across the county. The proposal is that the youth activities will be commissioned based on need and by locality through the LJC's. Those areas with highest need get the most funding, StrettonDale area gets an allocation of £3000 due to its rural location.

The previously approved proposal for the StrettonDale LJC area is to distribute this money through a grant scheme.

**Approved:**

**Grant paperwork to be distributed w/c 8<sup>th</sup> June. Deadline 27<sup>th</sup> June, panel meeting by Mid July. Maximum grants no more than £500. A further round to be opened in the autumn if there is funding remaining. LB to work with the school for youth involvement with appraisals.**

## **11. Updates and issues from Parishes**

Church Stretton – new Mayor appointed (Mike Walker), planning applications at the school for development, Ashbrook development completed and properties available. Well and Wise event at SHI on 10<sup>th</sup> June, developing an initiative to tackle dog fouling which will include a clean dog walkers pledge which will be launched shortly. Town Council looking at traffic and formulating 5 problems under 'community led concerns on traffic'. A programme of events planned for Rectory Wood starts in July. Church Stretton Business Forum takes place on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 6pm in the SHI.

Rushbury – still having problems with an enforcement issue. **ACTION: Tim to speak to Mal Price about reporting issue.** Sewerage treatment plant now able to accept connections.

Eaton under Heywood and Hope Bowdler – concerns about changes to planning committees. The meeting was advised that no changes are being proposed, but there is a survey for parish and town councils to complete.

Cardington – issues with litter left by contractors after recent works.

All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston – currently issues around planning and broadband. It was suggested that when there are issues with the A49, electronic message boards be placed at key junctions to divert traffic. **ACTION: Tim Sneddon to raise at the next English Highways liaison meeting.**

Leebotwood and Longnor – concerns raised regarding the erosion of road edges and excessive speed by large lorries to the digester plant. The lengthsman scheme is working well. A query was raised regarding the weight limit of the bridge by Horseshoe Farm. **ACTION: Tim Sneddon to confirm the weight limit.**

Acton Burnell group – concerns raised by the PC regarding planning. Erosion of the roads is also cause for concern. **ACTION: Tim Sneddon to ensure local highways engineers monitor the highlighted areas.**

Condoover – a query was raised regarding timescales for Station Rd resurfacing works. A request for a reasonable notice period and as minimal disruption as possible. **ACTION: Tim Sneddon to confirm dates and arrangements.**

**12. Flood Forum**

A hand out was circulated to all present regarding recent works and support available from the council.

All were asked to forward any local concerns to their Shropshire Councillor or Community Enablement Officer.

**13. Future meeting arrangements**

To be arranged. October 2015

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

**Signed..... Chairman**

**Date: 2015**